

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 007289

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, WA, SF

SUBJECT: DISCUSSIONS WITH UK, FRANCE ON NAMIBIA

1. ON JANUARY 9 DEPARTMENT OFFICERS DISCUSSED INFORMALLY ON WORKING LEVEL WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF UK AND FRENCH EMBASSIES DESIRABILITY OF APPROACH TO SOUTH AFRICA ON NEED FOR EARLY SELF-DETERMINATION IN NAMIBIA. UK AND FRENCH REPRESENTATIVES POINTED OUT THAT SC RESOLUTION 366 OF DECEMBER 17, 1974 CALLS FOR SC MEETING BEFORE MAY 30 TO REVIEW SOUTH AFRICA'S COMPLIANCE WITH RESOLUTION PROVISIONS. IF SOUTH AFRICA HAS GIVEN NO FURTHER INDICATION OF PLANS FOR POSITIVE CHANGE IN NAMIBIA, AFRICANS LIKELY TO PROPOSE MANDATORY ACTION AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA. BOTH BRITISH AND FRENCH BELIEVE US, UK, FRANCE SHOULD URGE SOUTH AFRICA TO MAKE EXPLICIT STATEMENT OF ITS
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INTENTIONS SOON.

2. ALL PARTIES AGREED TO DEFINE THEIR IDEAS RE TIMING AND NATURE OF SELF-DETERMINATION FOR NAMIBIA AND ROLE OF UN IN TRANSITION PROCESS AND EXCHANGE VIEWS IN COMING WEEKS. THEY ALSO AGREED TO CONSIDER PARALLEL APPROACH TO SOUTH AFRICA ASSUMING POLICY AGREEMENT REACHED.

3. JANUARY 9 MEETING WAS SEQUEL TO DECEMBER 20 MEETING IN DEPARTMENT WITH BRITISH AND FRENCH EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVES FOR POST-SC ASSESSMENT OF NAMIBIA PROBLEM. MOST

OF INFO DISCUSSED AT THAT TIME IS NOW WELL KNOWN TO ADDRESSEES. HOWEVER, UK REPRESENTATIVE DID INDICATE THAT SA FOREIGN SECRETARY FOURIE HAD TOLD UK AMBASSADOR TO SOUTH AFRICA THAT SAG NO LONGER HAS ANY INTENTION TO BREAK UP NAMIBIA OR TO SPLIT OFF OVAMBOLAND FROM REST OF TERRITORY. BOTH UK AND FRENCH REPRESENTATIVES EXPRESSED BELIEF NAMIBIA SHOULD BE TREATED AS UNIT. DURING THAT MEETING, UK APPEARED MORE RECEPTIVE TO UN TRANSITION ROLE THAN DID FRENCH WHO APPEARED GUARDED ON THIS. ALL, HOWEVER, EXPRESSED RELUCTANCE TO SEE COUNCIL OF NAMIBIA PLAY ANY ROLE IN TRANSITION. KISSINGER

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